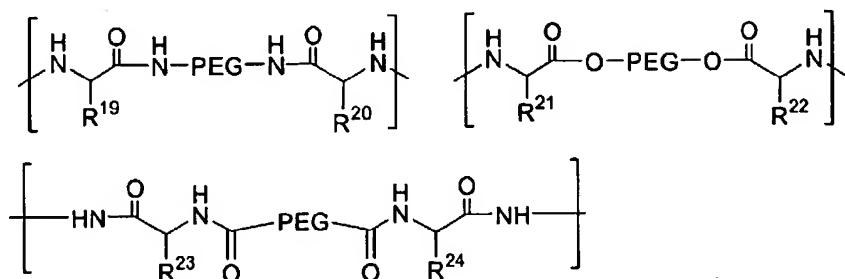


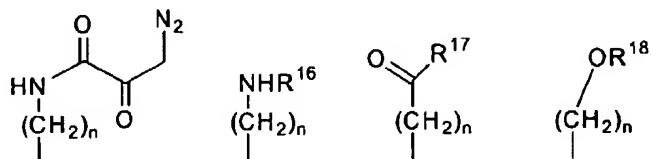
28. (Canceled).

*pp
8/18/04*
29. (New) A polymer according to claim 10, wherein L comprises a structure selected from the group consisting of



wherein PEG

is polyethyleneglycol, R¹⁹-R²⁴ are individually selected from the same groups as defined for R or comprise a structure selected from the group consisting of

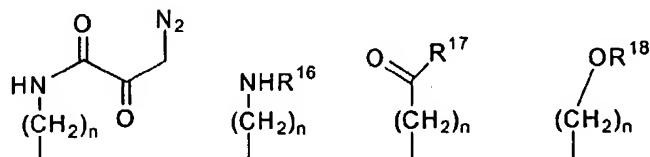


wherein n and R¹⁶ to R¹⁸ are as defined in claim 9, R¹⁹-R²⁴ optionally incorporating a pendent group comprising a cleavable linker unit.

30. (New) A polymer according to claim 1 wherein R, R² and R³ are hydrogen.

31. (New) A polymer according to claim 13, wherein the polymer is conjugated to an anti cancer agent.

wherein PEG is polyethyleneglycol, R^{19} - R^{24} optionally incorporates a pendent group comprising a cleavable linker unit, and may additionally comprise groups individually selected from the same groups as defined for R or may comprise a structure selected from the group consisting of [[



]]

wherein n and R^{16} to R^{18} and R^{16} to R^{18} are as defined in claim 9.

11. (Currently Amended) A polymer according to claim 9, wherein s is an integer [[of]] in the range from 1 to 10, preferably 1.

28 *12* 12. (Currently Amended) [[a]] A polymer according to claim [[9]] *29*, wherein at least one of R^{14} to R^{24} incorporates a cleavable bond, preferably a group (I) or one or more peptide bonds.

PH 6/18/04
13. (Currently Amended) A polymer according to claim 9, wherein the polymer is conjugated to a bioactive agent, preferably an anti-cancer agent, most preferably doxorubicin, daunomycin or taxol.

14. (Currently Amended) A polymer according to claim 9, wherein the number average molecular weight is in the range of 0.5kDa-400kDa.